

# Electromagnetics Across Asia: A Journey Through Science, Engineering, and Hospitality

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Under the IEEE AP-S Distinguished Lecturer Program, we completed a two-week Asia tour and organized six workshops across five cities. During this tour, I delivered the lectures titled: “*Computational Electromagnetics: From Basics to Mastery*” and “*Advanced Computational Electromagnetics: Beyond the Standard Numerical Modeling Techniques*”. The journey brought us to the following venues:

- March 30, 2026 (Monday): National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore
- April 1, 2026 (Wednesday): Telkom University, Jakarta, Indonesia
- April 3, 2026 (Friday): National University of Malaysia (UKM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- April 6, 2026 (Monday): Wuhan University, Wuhan, China
- April 9, 2026 (Thursday): Fudan University, Shanghai, China
- April 10, 2026 (Friday): ICCEM (International Conference on Computational Electromagnetics), Shanghai, China

Our tour began in **Singapore**, a city that stands out for its order, greenery, and strong commitment to sustainability. Singapore presents itself not simply as a global city, but as a “city in nature,” combining dense urban life with careful environmental planning. It was a fitting place to begin an academic tour centered on advanced science and engineering. The **National University of Singapore (NUS)** is one of Asia’s leading universities and is consistently recognized among the world’s top institutions, with broad global strength across many subject areas. I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Theng-Huat Gan and Dr. Ziliang Liu for hosting us at NUS. I appreciated the strong interest shown by colleagues and students, as well as the stimulating conversations we had after the workshop—about science, research culture in Singapore, and the advantages and challenges of being part of a highly ranked university. (see Picture 1)

Our second stop was **Telkom University in Jakarta, Indonesia**. Jakarta is a city of great energy and scale, and in recent years it has also been defining itself more consciously as a global city through urban transformation and modernization. Telkom University, although relatively young, has already built a strong identity as a private university with a broad academic profile and a strong emphasis on research and innovation. The workshop there was organized with extraordinary care and felt almost like a national celebration. The respect, attention, and hospitality shown to the DL speakers were truly remarkable and made us feel genuinely valued. It was a pleasure to meet the energetic students and faculty members there. I would like to thank Dr. Arie Pangesti Aji and Dr. Yus Natali very sincerely for their gracious hosting. At the end of the workshop, we also held a Women in Engineering (WiE) session. It was especially encouraging to see many

women working in electromagnetics in Jakarta's universities. It was equally inspiring that many of the organizers were women and that there were so many female students in the audience. (see Picture 2)

The third stop of our tour was the **National University of Malaysia (UKM) in Kuala Lumpur**. Kuala Lumpur presented itself as a modern and multicultural city, yet with a sense of familiarity. Its highways, broad streets, and parts of its urban layout occasionally reminded me of Türkiye, which gave the city a surprisingly close and accessible feeling. UKM has grown into a major institution with a broad academic and research ecosystem. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Mohamad Zoinol Abidin Bin Abd Aziz for hosting us there. Once again, it was very meaningful to see strong female representation: the dean was a woman, many of the organizers were women, and about half of the audience were women as well. This gave the event an especially positive and forward-looking atmosphere. (see Picture 3)

After completing the first half of the tour, we continued to **China**. Our fourth stop was **Wuhan University in Wuhan**. Wuhan, often described as the "City of Rivers," sits at the confluence of the Yangtze and Han rivers and is known for its large urban lakes, green spaces, and strong university culture. Arriving during the Qingming season added a special beauty to the visit, especially in a city also well known for its spring scenery and cherry blossoms. Wuhan felt highly modern, dynamic, and full of movement. Wuhan University, whose history traces back to 1893, is one of China's earliest modern comprehensive universities. Its historic buildings and green campus give it a distinctive academic character. I would like to offer my warmest thanks to Prof. Siyuan He and his students—especially Zhidan Bian and Huaitao Xu—for giving us the warmest airport welcome of the entire tour and greeting us with flowers. Their kindness, friendship, and generosity were truly exceptional. This part of the tour was personally very meaningful to me. I found myself reflecting that China's remarkable rise in science and innovation is rooted not only in physical resources or infrastructure, but also in the value placed on education from an early age, in patience, diligence, and respect for experience and leadership. (see Picture 4)

Our fifth and final destination was **Shanghai**, one of the largest and most cosmopolitan metropolitan areas not only in China but also in the world. Shanghai is a city where history, commerce, global exchange, and modern urban life intersect with unusual intensity. There we organized two separate DL workshops: first at **Fudan University** and then at **ICCEM 2026**. Fudan University is one of China's top universities and a comprehensive, research-oriented institution with a strong international profile. I would like to thank Prof. Yan Wang and his students—especially Zhangkun Yi—for great hospitality and warm welcome. Their kindness added a special warmth to our visit and made this stage of the tour particularly pleasant. Being in Shanghai gave the final part of the tour a distinctly global atmosphere, and Fudan's academic standing made it an ideal host for such an event. Ending the tour in Shanghai, with two high-level scientific gatherings, gave the journey a very strong and memorable conclusion. (see Pictures 5 and 6)

It was also a pleasure to share these workshops with such esteemed Distinguished Lecturers: Prof. Richard Ziolkowski from Arizona State University, USA; Prof. Maokun Li from Tsinghua University, China; Prof. Eng Leong Tan from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; Prof. Desmond Sim from National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan; and Prof. Levent Sevgi from Istanbul Technical University, Türkiye. I learned something valuable from each of them. Finally, I am deeply grateful to Prof. Levent Sevgi for organizing this Asia tour and to IEEE AP-S for sponsoring my participation. Overall, this two-week journey was much more than a lecture series. It was an intellectually rich, culturally diverse, and personally meaningful experience—one that reminded me once again that science connects people not only through knowledge, but also through generosity, curiosity, and shared human warmth.



**Picture 1:** A collection of photos from Singapore workshop.



**Picture 2:** A collection of photos from Jakarta workshop.



**Picture 3:** A collection of photos from Kuala Lumpur workshop.



**Picture 4:** A collection of photos from Wuhan workshop.



Picture 5: A collection of photos from Shanghai (Fudan University) workshop.



Picture 6: A collection of photos from Shanghai (ICCEM 2026) workshop.